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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application  
Inventors: Brian K. Tanner  
SC/Serial No.: 10/629,402  
Confirm. No.: 7213  
Filed: July 28, 2003  
Title: APPARATUS FOR SPINDLE BEARING  
FRICTION ESTIMATION FOR RELIABLE DISK  
DRIVE STARTUP

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 2837  
Examiner: Miller, Patrick L.

Customer No. 23910

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 11, 2004

Thomas A. Ward \_\_\_\_\_ (Attorney Signature)  
Thomas A. Ward, Reg. 35,732  
Signature Date: November 11, 2004

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 11, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments**

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 5, 6, 17 and 22, and amend claims 1-4, 7, 9, 12, 16, 18, 19, 23-27 and 31-33 as shown in the listing of claims beginning of the following page.